



**AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR RSD/CRPS**  
AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR RSD/CRPS ASSISTANCE CENTER  
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May 23, 2001

Attn: Kim Topper  
Nancy Chamberlain  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
Voice: 301-827-7001  
Fax: 301-827-6801

RE: Anesethic and Life Support Drugs Advisory Committee, FDA

Dear Ms. Topper and Ms. Chamberlain,

I am of the understanding that the above FDA committee will be holding a hearing on June 14 and 15, 2001 in Gaithersburg, MD. On the FDA website, it states that the "committee will discuss the medical use of opiate analgesics in various patient populations, including pediatric patients and patients with chronic pain of nonmalignant etiology, as well as the risk to benefit ratio of extending opiate treatment into these populations. It will also address concerns regarding the abuse potential, diversion and increasing incidence of addiction to opiate analgesics, especially to the modified release opiate analgesics". Given the fact that I am not only the director of a national organization (American Society for RSD-CRPS), but also a survivor with RSD/CRPS (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome/Complex Regional Pain Syndrome), I would like a chance to meet with the committee and speak on this subject. I feel that my familiarity with opiate usage (as well as non-opiate use) for "chronic pain of nonmalignant etiology" would benefit this meeting and the committee. The Administrative Director, Deb Lundquist, as well as our organizations Children's Issues Coordinator, Tracee Stinedurf (both RSD survivors - Tracee has had RSD since the age of 15 and has a morphine pump implanted) will be in town and able to speak as well.

Please advise me as to whether this is an open meeting, or if one needs to formally request admittance as well as a chance to speak. I can be reached at either my business number, 410-515-0131, or my home number, 410-515-4661. I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,

Thomas Matthew Barnes  
Executive Director  
American Society for RSD-CRPS  
PO Box 1397  
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